

Public School 174
William Sidney Mount
65-10 Dieterle Crescent
Rego Park, NY 11374
1-718-897-7006

Cindy Galloway O'Connor
Assistant Principal

Karin Kelly
Principal

February 16, 2012

Dear Parent or Guardian,

In October 2011, we learned of an allegation that Wilbert Cortez, a teacher at P.S. 174, might have inappropriately touched a student at our school. Upon learning of this allegation, we immediately notified the Police Department and the Special Commissioner of Investigation, and reassigned Mr. Cortez to a central office location away from students.

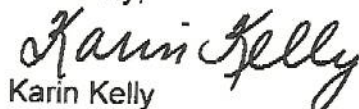
Today, Mr. Cortez was arrested in relation to those allegations.

As this is an ongoing criminal investigation, I have been asked to keep specific information about the matter confidential. The NYPD or the Queens District Attorney's office may contact some parents as they seek to determine if there are other children who may have been involved or been witnesses.

We will hold a special parent meeting to discuss this matter at the school tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m.

In addition, if you have reason to believe that your child may know something about this incident, or if you suspect your child may have been harmed in any way, please contact me or the NYPD right away.

Sincerely,


Karin Kelly